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| 10/749,157      | 12/30/2003  | Gurjeet K. Jaggi     | 03855 (3883.00030)  | 7847             |

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EXAMINER

ORTIZ, ANGELA Y

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1732

DATE MAILED: 01/04/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/749,157

Applicant(s)

JAGGI, GURJEET K.

Examiner

Angela Ortiz

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1732

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 November 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 4-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 4-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 December 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1, 2, 4-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 1, the use of "predetermined pressure" is not understood; for purposes of the rejection below, this phrase has been interpreted to mean *injection pressure*. Applicant must clarify the record in any subsequent communication in response to this rejection.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claims 1, 2, 4-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brodi, Jr. et al., USP 6,838,027 in view of Dooley et al., US 2004/0229013 A1 or Rao et al., USP 5,414,037.

The cited primary reference substantially teaches the basic claimed method of forming a trim panel having a class-A surface, the method comprising the steps of providing a mold having upper and lower mold halves 32,34 wherein a blade 42,48 is

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provided to divide one molding surface into a plurality of recesses. A trim component 26 is provided between the mold halves 32,34 and the mold halves 32,34 are closed. A resin is injected into the cavity and forms a class-A surface that is visible from the interior. See col. 3, lines 10-15, 35-60; col. 4, lines 1-15, 20-25.

The cited primary reference does not teach that the injected material has a predetermined pressure less than the maximum clamp pressure, per se. Note that injected material is deemed at a lower pressure than the mold clamp pressure, as the mold must be clamped at a pressure greater than the injection pressure to perform molding in a closed mold and prevent the mold from opening during the injection process. Nonetheless, such would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to so include for ensuring a closed mold for forming a high quality molded panel.

Both cited secondary references teach a similar method of producing trim panels with class-A surfaces using injection molding methods which teach injecting at a pressure less than the clamp pressure as conventional. Dooley et al. produces a soft touch trim component with a class-A surface wherein soft foam is injected into the molding cavity such that the foam has a predetermined pressure less than the maximum clamp pressure to eliminate a visible outline, see paragraph [0034]. Rao et al. produces a vehicle body panel having a class-A surface wherein a resin is injection molded within a mold cavity at a pressure less than the clamp pressure, see example 1 at col. 3, lines 40-65, for producing a product with a class-A surface right out of the mold.

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It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to so inject at a pressure lower than the clamp pressure as shown in either added reference, when performing the process set forth in the primary reference, for eliminating a visible outlines or for producing a class-A surface right out of the mold.

With respect to claim 2, note that it is inherent that the material is finally cured to form the claimed molded substrate, and then removed from the mold, see col. 4, lines 5-10 of USP 6,838,027; nonetheless, such would have been obvious for producing a finally formed composite panel.

With respect to claims 4-5, see USP 6,838,027 at figure 7 and col. 3, lines 1-7, col. 4, lines 1-25.

With respect to claims 6-8, note the use of blade 48 to minimize appearance of bonding and see col. 3, lines 60-68 of USP 6,838,027.

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 2, 4-8 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Note that the newly applied rejection is responsive to the newly added claim limitations.

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***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. US 2004/0084795 A1.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Angela Ortiz whose telephone number is 571-272-1206. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 9:00-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Colaianne can be reached on 571-272-1196. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Angela Ortiz  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1732

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